

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 2 May 1853

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, and in reply to state that dies have already been sent to New Orleans, and the Superintendent has been instructed to direct the energetic coinage of the new Silver. Your communication of the 27th relative to the difficulty in arranging the devices of an annular coin so as to conform to the restrictions of law was answered on the 29th, and ^{as you have} ~~had~~ doubtless, ere this received my reply. You will observe that my impression is that to combine devices emblematic of liberty with the annular form will not be possible. I shall however, direct the Engraver to give his attention to the subject, and trust that he may be able to overcome the apparent difficulty.

Very respectfully

J. M. Pettit
Director

Hon. Jas. Guthrie
Sec. of Treasury.